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8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein determining the mixture of color components comprises determining a percent coverage of the colorants of the separations on the substrate.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 5 and including correcting the estimate of diffuse reflection based on a percent coverage of the substrate by the colorants and repeating the determination of the color mixture based on the corrected estimate.

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13. (Amended) A method according to claim 11 and comprising:

acquiring a reflection spectrum of the printed colorant including at least a wavelength region in which the color is not at or near saturation, wherein the OD is determined based on a reflectance measurement at a wavelength in which the color is not at or near saturation.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 11 wherein determining the OD comprises:

filtering the reflection through a filter which passes at least a portion of the wavelength region in which the color is not at or near saturation; and  
measuring the filtered reflection.

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16. (Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein the colorant is a process color and wherein the plurality of filters comprise a filter associated with each of the process colors, each said filter selectively passing only wavelengths for which the colorant has a high absorption and including:

determining which of the filters that do not cause a saturation condition in the measurement of OD, blocks a maximum of the reflected light and  
utilizing the thus determined filter to filter the reflection prior to measurement